

Islamic university

**Radiology techniques Department/
Third Stage**

Practical Pathology

Lab.4

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SLIDE PREPARATION

Main Topics of this lab:

- Steps of slide preparation.
- What is the characteristic of each type?
- Definition of dehydration
- The meaning of clearing ?
- The difference between the each type

1. Fixation

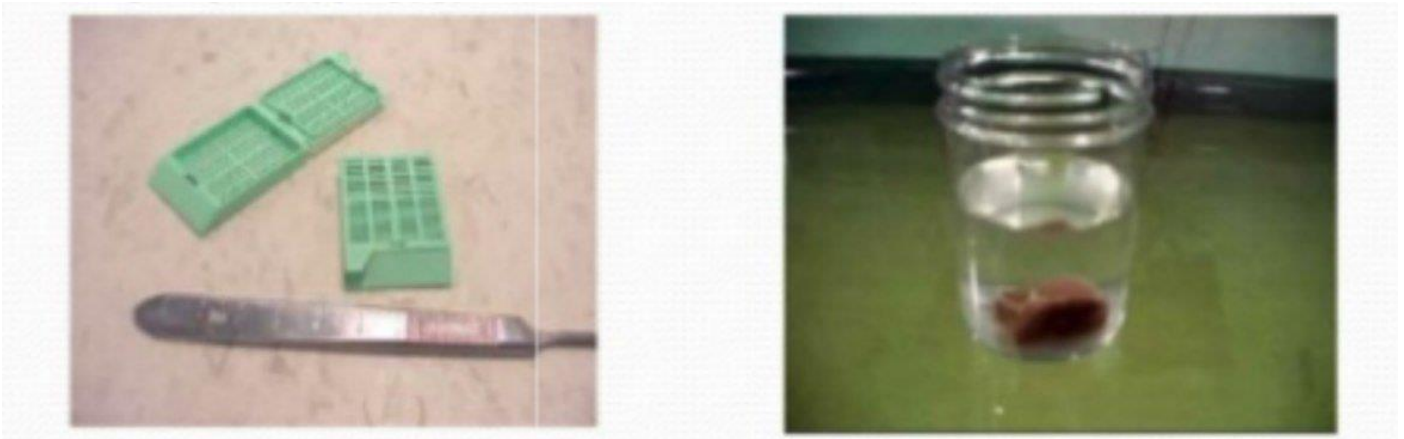
- Maintain natural state of the specimen
- Facilitate proper staining of the tissue

Characteristics of good fixations

- Penetrate quickly
- Prevent tissue from shrinkage

Examples of good fixatives

- Formaldehyde
- Osmic acid
- Picric Acid



2. Washing

- **Washing For removal of fixative 6-8 hours under tap water**

3. Dehydration

- **Removal of water**
- **Alcohols are most commonly used for dehydration**
- **Different percentages of alcohols are used for different periods**
- **30%, 50 %, 70% alcohols for two hours**
- **80%, 95% for 1 hour**
- **100% for 1/2 hour**

4. Clearing

- Removal of dehydrating agent
- Clearing agents are miscible with both embedding medium and dehydrating agents
- xylene, toluene, and chloroform is used as clearing agents

5. Wax infiltration

- Replace xylene with paraffin
- The specimen is immersed in melted paraffin.
- Removes all bubbles and xylene.

Procedure

- Two baths of melted paraffin.
- Leave the tissue in one hour in melted paraffin
- Put the tissue in in fresh paraffin and melt it again

6. Embedding or blocking out

- Allow the melted wax to be solidify
- Place the tissue cassette in a mold filled with melted paraffine
- The specimen is very carefully oriented in the mold because its orientation will determine the plane of section
- Allow to cool

7. sectioning – trimming the block

the block with it attached cassette can be removed from the mold and now is ready for microtomy

